(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is not possible to indicate percentage to expenditure likely to be saved by introduction to electronic voting machines as the saving would result from long term use of the machines and would further depend on the extent to which the machines are put to use.

Deposits held / advances made by branches of Allahabad Bank

2631. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the branches of Allahabad Bank compile the figures in respect of deposits held and the advances made by them every week;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the weekly figures of deposits and advances during the period between 15th February and 15th May in the last three years *viz.* 1994, 1995 and 1996 showed wide fluctuation w.r.t. 31st March of the corresponding year.

(c) if so, the details of the figures; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अनुसूचित जातियों / अनुसूचित जनजातियों / अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के लोगों को प्रोत्साहन, अनुदान अथवा सहायता

2632. **श्री रामजी लाल:** क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित जनजातियों और अन्य पिछड़ी जातियों के उन लोगों को प्रोत्साहन, अनुदान अथवा सहायता देती है जो पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने में रुचि रखते हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछड़े दो वर्षों के दौरान इस संबंध में किये गए कार्य / खर्च की गई राशि का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं तो सरकार द्वारा भविष्य में इन लोगों को आगे लाने के लिए क्या प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री श्रीकान्त जेना): (क) से (ग) पर्यटन विभाग के पास अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित जनजातियों और अन्य पिछड़ी जातियों के लोगों को प्रोत्साहन देने की कोई योजना नहीं है। तथापि, प्राइवेट उद्यमियों की जिनमें अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित जनजातियों और अन्य पिछड़ी जातियों के लोग शामिल हैं, होटल आवास एककों की कुछ श्रेणियों के निर्माण पर ब्याज इमदाद जैसे प्रोत्साहन दिए गए हैं।

Proposal for Tax Relaxation in Tourism Industry

2633. SHRI SUSHIL BARAONGPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposals from the Ministry of Tourism in regard to tax relaxations in tourism industry;

(b) if so, whether Government have given its consent to extend these incentives; and

(c) if not, by when Government propose to extend these tax relaxations to tourism industry?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Presently there is no proposal to extend tax concessions to the tourism industry.

Epidemics caused by Migrants in the Capital

2634. SHRI KRISHANA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the heavy influx of migrants in the capital is causing spidemics as reported in the Asian Age dated 18th September, 1996;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken/propose to take any steps to check influx of migrants in the capital to avoid spread of epidemics; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

दिल्ली में पेट्रोल पम्पों द्वारा आयकर की चोरी

2635. **श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:**
श्री राजनाथ सिंह:

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि दिल्ली में पेट्रोल पम्प अपनी वास्तविक आय छुपाकर सरकार को कम आयकर का भुगतान कर रहे हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री पी॰ चिदम्बरम) (क) आयकर विभाग के ध्यान में ऐसा कोई विशिष्ट मामला नहीं आया है जिससे दिल्ली में पेट्रोल पम्प मालिकों द्वारा आय छिपाने और तदनुसार आयकर की कम अदायगी करने का पता चलता हो।

(ख) उपर्युक्त (क) को देखते हुए यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

News-item captioned "Official junketeers not AI's free load"

2636. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the Indian Express, New Delhi, dated 25.10.1996 caption "Official Junketeers not AI's free load";

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the number of free rides given for the last 3 years by Tourism Department Officers to foreign Opinion makers to take all expenses-paid trips to India by Air India and Indian Airlines and actual expenses involved thereby, year-wise; and

(c) whether his Ministry is aware of the resentment reportedly expressed by our airlines as no budgetary allocations are made for such "ticketless travel"?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:—

Year	Number of free passages availed		Amount spent by D/o Tourism on local hospitality (Rs. in lakhs)
	On Air India	On Indian Airlines	
1993-94	970	675	85
1994-95	1551	1059	75
1995-96	852	507	118.50

No cost was incurred by Indian Airlines and Air India as free passages are generally accommodated after revenue paying passangers.

(c) Airlines are generally opposed to the grant of free passeges.

Mal-practices on account of free import of Gold

2637. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to allegations that the decision to allow free import of Gold has been instrumental for a sharp increase in over-invoicing of merchandise imports and under-invoicing of merchandise exports; and